

CHARA BALTICA Bruz. FOUND IN GREENLAND

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OBSERVATIONS

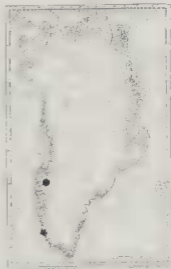
Chara baltica Bruz. is reported from Greenland by Braun & Nordstedt (1882), who gives the diffuse location: Nord-America, Grönland (*leg. Raben, in herb. Sonder*). The problem about this find is discussed in Langangen *et al.* (1996), and is related to the lack of specimens to support the find. Langangen *et al.* (1996) accept the find because "we do believe this is so as the determination was made by Braun himself". The new find, described below, assures the existence of *Chara baltica* in Greenland.

Locality

Greenland: Søndre Strømfjord: Small salt-lake c. 500 m northwest of Limnaea Sø (Lake Limnaea), 170 m a.s., 66°59.8'N, 51°06.3'W. Leg. Ole Bennike, GEUS, Denmark, 3 August 1996.

Description of specimens found

Small plants, up to 8 cm high. Not incrusting. Internodes up to 2.2 cm long. Stem diameter to 700 µm. Cortex diplostichous, some placed 2 (3) corticated, tylacanthous. Some juvenile plants with poor developed or missing cortex. Spine-cells short to papillous, only single, acute. Stipulodes in two tiers, small, short. In some specimens only developed in upper row. Number of branchlets 5-6 in a whorl, up to 7 mm long, 0.3-1x length of internode. 2-3 segments per branchlet. End-segment with 2-4 cells, length of these are up



to 5 mm. Endcell short, acute. Branchlets with cortex on the 1-2 lowest segments, elsewhere ecorticate. Anterior bracts and bracteoles as long as the oogonia, posterior bract-cells papillous. Monoecious. Poor fertility, mostly juvenile gametangia.

The specimens described here fits very well the description given of the species by Braun & Nordstedt (1882), who says: "*Forma internodiis valde elongatis, verticillis brachyphyllis clausis microcantha*". This means that this is a type with elongated internodes, short branchlets and with spine-cells shorter than the stem-diameter.

Figure 1 shows the new (dot) and presumed old find (star) of *Chara baltica* in Greenland. (In Langangen *et al.* (1996) the known distribution of *C. baltica* is shown in figure 5, and not figure 10).

The specimens are deposited in Herb. C (Copenhagen).

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